

Justin Minnich

Week 5 Reflection

Southwood Elementary

This week has been pretty rough. I have had to deal with several different discipline issues. One student, John, is a 5th grader. He has some mental disorders although I am not sure what kind? I asked Mr. Yenna and he said he is not sure, but he believes that he was beaten as a younger child. I had known this going into the lesson. John was being very disruptive in my class. He kept talking while I was giving instructions, pestering other students, and just wanting attention. I gave John several opportunities to settle down. With most other students I would have set them out after one warning. I probably gave John about 4-5 warnings. When I told him to sit out, he said some not nice things and was very upset. I chose to ignore what he said, because of his issues. When I turned around, I saw John sitting on top of a cabinet that is next to the bleachers. I told him to get down and asked him what he was doing? He asked me when he would be able to come back to the game. I said when you can sit and be still and quite for 5 minutes. He got mad and knocked over a mat that was leaned up against the cabinet and sat on it. I still let that go, after some time he was quite and I let him back in the game. About five minutes later he got upset with another student and started arguing with him. This was the last straw for me and I sent him to the office. Looking back on the situation I wish I would have sent him to the office sooner. Knowing his disabilities and home life I was more lenient with him. Another girl who is having issues with her home life is Shay. Shay is always getting into trouble as a 6th grader. Last week she got kicked off the bus, and she is the only person that rides that bus because she is such a problem. Earlier in the week her mom just left her and her family. We were not sure if Shay was going to be at school or not, but she showed up. Shay was her same old self, trying to start problems with everyone. Knowing what had happened to her at home I was lenient with her. I let some things that she said slide. She was disruptive to the class and was starting to offend one of the boys in the class. I

asked her to stop several times. She did for a while until the boy threw a ball at her pretty hard. They started to argue back and forth and were getting pretty nasty with one another. I sent both of the students to the office. While Shay was in the office, a social worker came to my class and asked if she could speak with Shay. I told the social worker that Shay was in the office and she went to talk to her. Mr. Yenna and the other teachers do not expect Shay to come back to school. Other than these two incidences this week has been great. I am really going to miss my students when I go over to the high school. This is something that I did not really expect.